

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 FCC-01 COME-00 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 /030 W  
-----241817Z 023228 /53  
R 241440Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7007

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETEL, SA  
SUBJECT: AMATEUR RADIO RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA

REF STATE 3655

1. WE ARE GIVING ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATING AND CONCLUDING AN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT, IN KEEPING WITH THE INTEREST EXPRESSED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE FCC. AMBASSADOR PORTER, WHO HAS BEEN GRANTED A LICENSE BY THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT ON THE BASIS OF HIS FCC CERTIFICATE, GENERAL CLASS, HAS SURVEYED INFORMALLY THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT. THE AMBASSADOR WOULD BE PLEASED TO SUBMIT A DRAFT PROPOSAL TO SAUDIS AT AN EARLY DATE, AND SUGGESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDE THE EMBASSY WITH TEXTS IN ORDER THAT THEY BE AVAILABLE IN JIDDA WHEN NEEDED.

2. THE AMBASSADOR WISHES TO MAKE CERTAIN COMMENTS ON THE SUBJECT. THE DEPARTMENT AND FCC SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SAG DOES NOT USUALLY ISSUE LICENSES EVEN TO SAUDI NATIONALS, AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW THE AMBASSADOR IS THE ONLY FOREIGNER WHO HAS BEEN ACCORDED A PRIVATE LICENSE BY THE MINISTRY OF PTT HERE. ANOTHER FOREIGNER, A LEBANESE NATIONAL WHO IS MANAGER OF THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL IN RIYADH, HAS BEEN TOLD ORALLY TO "GO AHEAD AND OPERATE," AND IS DOING SO, BUT THE SAUDIS HAVE NOT

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FORMALLY LICENSED HIM. ADDITIONALLY, FOR SOME YEARS THE US MILITARY TRAINING MISSION STATION AT DHAHRAN, WHICH ALSO FUNCTIONS IN THE MARS CIRCUIT, HAS BEEN OPERATING AS CLUB STATION (HZ1AB) WITH SAG PERMISSION.

3. THE ONLY SAUDIS WHO ARE OPERATING WITH ASSIGNED CALL LETTERS (HZ1TA AND HZ1SH) ARE PRINCES OF THE ROYAL HOUSE OF SAUD.

THE KING RESERVES THE CALL HZ1AA FOR HIS USE BETWEEN HIS URBAN AND DESERT ABODES.

4. THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT IN GENERAL IS NOT VERY WELL AWARE OF THE NATURE OF AMATEUR RADIO ACTIVITY, AND HAS NOT SHOWN ANY INTEREST IN THE PROLIFERATION OF LICENSED AMATEURS IN JORDAN AND KUWAIT, FOR EXAMPLE. THE AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE SAUDI OPERATORS OF THE STATIONS MENTIONED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH THAT THE PROBLEM OF ISSUING LICENSES TO MANY LICENSED AMERICAN AMATEURS SERVING IN SAUDI ARABIA IS THAT AMATEUR ACTIVITY HERE WOULD TAKE ON AN ALMOST TOTALLY AMERICAN ASPECT WITH LOTS OF AMERICANS BUT NO SAUDIS TO SPEAK OF OPERATING IN THIS COUNTRY.

5. IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO AROUSE SAUDI INTEREST IN A RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES. WE WILL AWAIT THE DEPARTMENT'S FURTHER COMMENTS BEFORE TAKING STEPS IN THAT DIRECTION.  
PORTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, AMATEUR RADIO STATIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977JIDDA00643  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** AMATEUR RADIO RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA  
**TAGS:** ETEL, SA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009